

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendments and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-16 and 18-19 are pending, Claims 1-4 and 17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claims 5-16 and 18-19 are amended to address cosmetic issues of form. No new matter is introduced.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-4 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (Japanese Publication 2002-259989, hereafter "Watanabe"); and Claims 5-16 and 18-19 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but were otherwise indicated as including allowable subject matter.

The indication of allowance subject matter is gratefully acknowledged. In response, and to expedite the issuance of a patent from the present Application, Claims 5 and 18 are recast in independent form and amended to include the features of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

Further, Claims 1-4 and 17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. As such, it is believed that all pending claims are in condition for formal allowance.

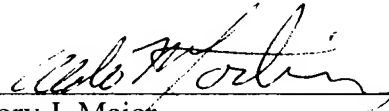
Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for Claims 5-16 and 18-19 is earnestly solicited.

Application Serial No. 10/540,127  
Reply to Office Action of October 30, 2009

Should, however, the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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